

Lighthouses

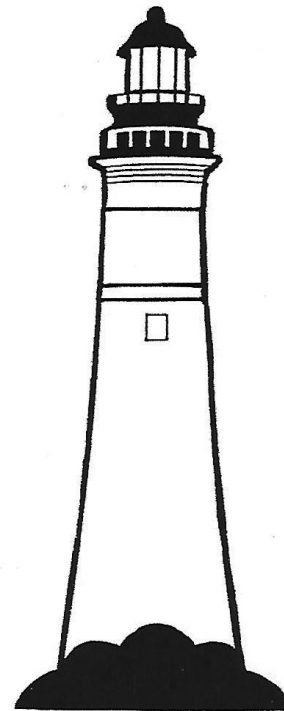
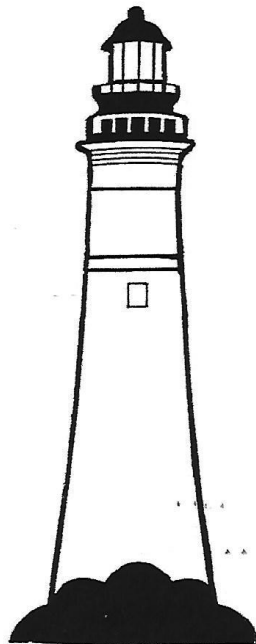
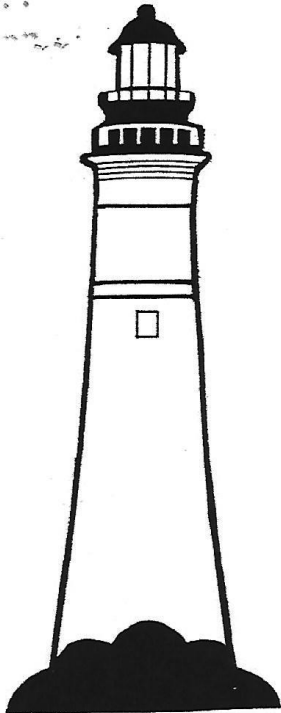
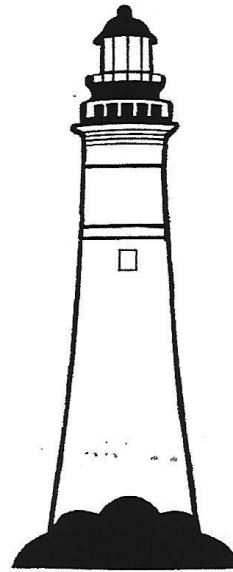
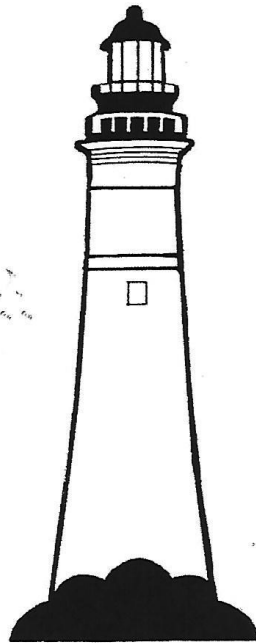
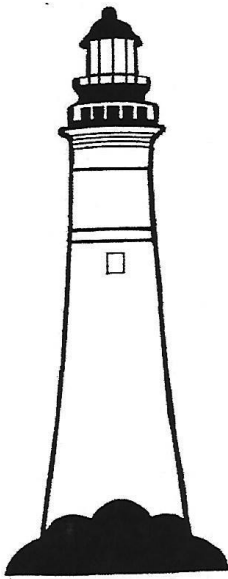
Pre-visit Activities

Cape Canaveral Lighthouse

Educational Tour



Suppose you had to design a lighthouse daymark! Below are some lighthouses. Give them different daymarks so sailors can tell them apart!



The Lighthouse Keeper's Flying Cow

Near the village of Owls Head, Maine is a stark cliff sticking out of the water of Penobscot Bay. On the cliff and beyond is a forest of lovely pine and spruce trees. Also on the cliff is a short lighthouse painted white. Boats go by Owls Head Lighthouse leaving or returning to busy Rockland Harbor. There were also many fishing boats, mail

boats and passenger steamers passing near the cliff. All of these vessels depended on the Owls Head lighthouse for guidance.



Clara Maddocks lived at Owls Head Lighthouse long ago—before electricity was used to light the beacon light and the keeper's house. She used oil lamps, instead of light bulbs, to shine the lighthouse lantern at night. She had oil lamps in her house too, instead

of electric lamps, and an oil lamp that she carried to light her nightly journeys to the light tower on the hill behind her house.

Clara's kitchen stove was heated with wood and she washed her clothes in a big metal tub. Her days were spent with household chores and keeping the lighthouse in good order. She also kept track of the weather and wrote in her journal every day about the kinds of vessels that passed by and things which happened at the lighthouse. She did this because, as keeper of the lighthouse, she had to have these records when the Lighthouse Inspector came to visit.

Her husband had been the keeper, but he had died and her children had grown up and left home, Clara loved being the lighthouse keeper and had a pet cow named Clover to keep her company.

Clover lived in a small barn near the lighthouse where she stayed throughout the cold winter, but in spring she spent her time on the steep hillside next to the lighthouse grazing on the grass and swatting pesky flies with her tail. Clover would meet Clara at the bottom of the lighthouse stairs every morning after the light had been extinguished, waiting to be milked. Every afternoon about 4:00 she would go to the barn to be milked again before Clara had to light the lantern in the lighthouse for the night.



One morning when Clara had finished her work in the lighthouse, Clover was not waiting at the bottom of the stairs. Clara searched around the lighthouse and called to the cow. Clover was nowhere to be seen. Then Clara heard the sound of Clover's big bell from far away. And Clara heard a faraway "moooooooooo."

Clara ran to the edge of the cliff. As she neared the cliff, the moos became louder. There was Clover standing at the bottom of the cliff up to her knees in water. Clover had tumbled over the cliff!

There was no way for Clover to climb up the cliff and Clara could not pull her up. Clara ran for help in the nearby village. The men of the town came immediately when they heard about Clover's predicament. They set up a hoist with a block and tackle—a contraption for lifting heavy things. They made a big harness from canvas and rope straps to lift Clover. A brave man went down the cliff to put the harness on the poor cow. The men at the top of the cliff started pulling the ropes. Her feet left the ground and up, up, up she went with hooves dangling. Everyone from the village of Owls

Head had assembled on top of the cliff to see Clara Maddock's cow fly.

Finally the cow was landed back at the top of the cliff amid claps and cheers. Clara affectionately hugged her pet, but Clover, who was much embarrassed by the whole affair, trotted off to her pasture. That's the story of Clara Maddocks' flying cow. Folks still tell it around Owls Head, Maine and it gets better every time it's told.



The teacher can read the story to the students or make copies for each student to read. After it has been read, the class can discuss what they learned about Clara's lighthouse and her life at the lighthouse by referring to the questions below:

1. Owls Head Lighthouse is only 30 feet tall. How can so short a lighthouse shine its light far enough over the water to be seen by ships? [The lighthouse sits on a tall cliff which gives it enough height to be seen from far away](#)
2. What is the day mark of Owls Head Lighthouse? [Its day mark is white walls with a black lantern.](#)
3. Do you think that Owls Head Lighthouse was a warning lighthouse or a guiding lighthouse? [Owls Head Lighthouse warns ships about the high rocky cliff and guides ships to Rockland Harbor.](#)
5. What kinds of duties did Clara have as a lighthouse keeper? [Clara had to keep the lighthouse in order, tend the light at night, keep records of ships passing and watch the weather for threatening weather such as storms or fog](#)
6. Why do you think Clara was given the job of keeper? [As the widow of a keeper, Clara knew how to perform the duties. Many widows of keepers were given the jobs their husbands had once held.](#)

Lighthouse Glossary

Caisson: A lighthouse that sits on a large concrete cylinder sunk into the seabed

Cast iron lighthouse: A lighthouse made of large iron plates bolted together

Characteristic: The individual flashing pattern of each lighthouse at night

Conical lighthouse: A lighthouse tower shaped like an upside down ice cream cone

Day mark: The unique color scheme or design which identifies a specific lighthouse during the daylight hours

Journal (log): A book for maintaining records

Lamp: The piece of lighthouse equipment which produces the light

Lantern Room: The glassed-in housing at the top of a lighthouse tower containing the lamp and lens

Lighthouse: A tower or structure topped with a very bright light that is used by sailors as an aid to navigation

Navigation: The act of directing a ship, aircraft, etc. from one place to another, or the science of finding a way from one place to another.

Reef: A ridge of jagged coral below the surface of the sea

Screw pile lighthouse: A lighthouse built on legs (pilings) with large screws on them which screw into the seabed

Shoals: Deposits of sand which make the water too shallow for ships

Skeletal lighthouse: A lighthouse with an enclosed lantern room and stairs but no walls

Lighthouse Word Search

Answer each of the questions below by circling the answer in the word search puzzle below. Words may go in any direction.

S	N	E	L	S	V	R	Y	V	W	R	E	E	F	V	S
S	K	B	N	I	E	K	S	N	E	L	O	G	N	S	D
R	X	E	M	P	G	L	E	D	G	E	I	J	S	N	A
I	L	N	K	D	S	H	N	M	X	B	P	X	H	E	Y
A	G	E	V	E	R	E	T	N	A	L	W	L	O	L	M
T	K	W	E	A	T	L	I	H	G	S	E	P	A	C	A
S	R	L	P	L	L	A	N	Q	O	N	R	G	L	K	R
L	X	B	M	S	E	N	L	N	S	U	C	S	S	V	K
A	I	K	A	I	B	S	O	V	J	C	S	N	E	L	G
R	N	G	L	Y	G	R	I	P	O	C	S	E	L	E	T
I	O	W	H	M	I	Y	R	N	O	S	A	M	Y	N	M
P	C	V	K	T	F	L	I	O	E	L	A	H	W	S	Z
S	A	L	S	N	S	C	A	I	S	S	O	N	K	W	O
H	E	A	C	H	A	R	I	S	T	I	C	H	O	R	N
J	C	X	M	L	E	N	S	Z	L	E	N	S	N	E	L

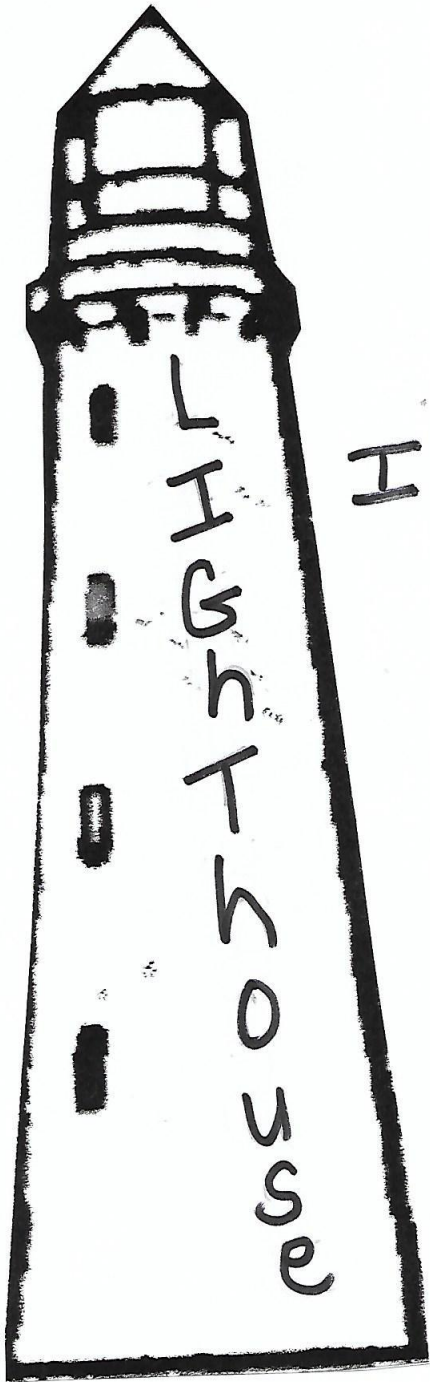
1. _____ is a lighthouse nicknamed a “sparkplug” lighthouse.
2. _____ is a lighthouse made of iron plates bolted together
3. _____ is the pattern of flashes of a lighthouse lantern.
4. _____ is a lighthouse shaped like an upside down ice cream cone.
5. _____ is the pattern painted on a lighthouse.
6. _____ is where the lighthouse keeper writes his records
7. _____ is an aid to navigation.
8. _____ are shallow areas where ships might get stuck
9. _____ is a lighthouse without walls.
10. _____ is a ridge of jagged coral just below the surface of the sea.

Solution to Puzzle

S	N	E	L	S	V	R	Y	V	W	R	E	E	F	V	S
S	K	B	N	I	E	K	S	N	E	L	O	G	N	S	D
R	X	E	M	P	G	L	E	D	G	E	I	J	S	N	A
I	L	N	L	D	S	H	N	M	X	B	P	X	H	E	Y
A	G	E	V	E	R	E	T	N	A	L	W	L	O	L	M
T	K	W	E	A	T	L	I	H	G	S	E	P	A	C	A
S	R	L	P	L	L	A	N	Q	O	N	R	G	L	K	R
L	X	B	M	S	E	N	L	N	S	U	C	S	S	V	K
A	I	K	A	I	B	S	O	V	J	C	S	N	E	L	G
R	N	G	L	Y	G	R	I	P	O	C	S	E	L	E	T
I	O	W	H	M	I	Y	R	N	O	S	A	M	Y	N	M
P	C	V	K	T	F	L	I	O	E	L	A	H	W	S	Z
S	A	L	S	N	S	C	A	I	S	S	O	N	K	W	O
H	E	A	C	H	A	R	I	S	T	I	C	H	O	R	N
J	C	X	M	L	E	N	S	Z	L	E	N	S	N	E	L

Describe a lighthouse

For each of the letters in the word "lighthouse" write a word that describes a lighthouse. (Hint: your vocabulary words may have some descriptive words you can use)



IRON